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# A TRUE COPY OF A LETTER SENT FROM VIENNA,

September the 2d 1683. N. S.

*By an Eminent English Officer under the Duke of Lorraine, to his Friend in London, Declaring the raising the SIEGE and the Total Overthrow of all the Turkish Army.*

Dear Friend,



Cannot but think it will be grateful News to all Christendom to hear of the Overthrow of the *Turkish* Army, therefore I make bold to send you this Letter to let you, and my Friends in *England* understand, as well as of my self, the preservation of a great part of Christendom, from the fury, rage and threatening Ruine, of that implacable and universal Enemy the *Turk*, who under the Command of the Grand *Viceroy*, with a very powerful Army, consisting of near an Hundred and Fifty Thousand men, had a very considerable time besieged the Imperial City of *Vienna*; for the relief of which the Emperor had confederated all the Friends and Allies he could in all the adjacent Territories, among which indeed I must say the chiefest was the King of *Poland*, whose Conduct and Valour had been sufficiently proved against the *Turks*, by the several considerable overthrows he hath given them, in Defence of that small Kingdom of *Poland*, and together with him the Dukes of *Bavaria*, *Saxony*, and others of the Princes; of the Empire had joyned as they were able to bring up their Forces so that in effect, they amounted 80000, Fighting men; the King of *Poland* commanded in Chief, and the Duke of *Lorraine* with him led the main Body. The Elector of *Bavaria* and Prince *Waldecke* Commanded the right Wing, and the Elector of *Saxony* and Duke of *Saxe Lauenburg* the Left. And thus we marched on to try what could be done, the King of *Poland* having desired First, that he might be a little acquainted with the posture of the Enemy, to that purpose drew out a considerable party of Horse, and marched on till he came within view of their Leaguer, the Army, especially of Horse, follow after with all diligence and Expedition, so that the *Turk*, having by his Scout

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and Spies Intelligence, that there was a powerful Army approaching him, he made hast out of his Trenches, dreading, great Opposition, especially because he was informed of a strong body of the *Bours* of the Country, who had gathered to an Head not far from him, Now indeed these poor people having been so long oppressed, and driven from their Habitatis by the *Turks*, ever since they came before *Vienna*, hearing of the Conjunction of so many good Christian Princes, drawing towards *Vienna* to relieve it, thought it was now time, not to hide themselves any longer in Holes, and therefore addressing themselves to some old Commanders, who were in an equal condition with themselves, they joyned themselves to the Forlorn-Hope of the Christian Army, and so marched towards the Enemy, who supposing these the greatest Force coming upon him, sent presently a party to dissolve them, which fell with such Violence upon these poor Men, but half armed, and at the First worsted them, and as is supposed destroyed above 1500 on the place; but just at the same Instant the King of *Poland*, and the others, with a full Body of resolute Horse, fell violently upon the *Turks* Army, who by this time had clearly left their Trenches, and fell upon them with that Conduct, valour and resolution, especially upon the *Janisaries*, that they were soon disordered, and in a short time became a Prey to the Sword, by which means the *Turks* main Strength and reliance was quite disabled, and all the rest, who were very numerous, being now bravely assaulted on all hands, (for by this time the *Bours*, who had before suffered, some little discomfiture, by the conduct and advice of their Leaders had rallied and made considerable Opposition) submitted to a General defeat. Tho I mention onely the conduct of that Heroick King of *Poland*, whose Honour can never be enough applauded, yet famous was the valour of the Duke of *Lorrain*, as also several Princes of the Empire, whose Catalogue would swell my Letter to an unpleasing length. It is not computed to be a less Number of the *Turks* slain than 100000, amongst which is the *Grand Vicer* himself, and so many of the *Janisaries*, that tis beleived there will hardly escape an Hundred of them to carry the News to *Constantinople*, to comfort the *Grand Signior*, the pursuit is violently Prosecuted, and all the passages warily Guarded. There are 700, of the *Turks*, Cannons and 60000, Tents taken and inumerable taken Prisoners. In the *Grand Vicer* Camp was found 2 Millions of Dollars, and his Tent computed to be worth 40000*l.* The King of *Poland* had been gone 7 hours in the pursuit of them, and not return'd at the Writing this Letter. The Christian Army has not lost as is computed above 3 or 4000, Men, among whom is the Duke of *Saxony*'s Brother and the Town is in an entire liberty.

This News arived by the French Post late on Saturday Night, and on Sunday Morning two Mails arived from *Flanders*, in which the Letters mention the *Turks* have received a great Overthrow, and that Bonfires had been made and Publick Thankes offered in that Country, for the Vitory of the Christian Army against the *Turks* before *Vienna*, it being most certain that all Letters agree the City is Relieved and the *Turks* have quitted the Seige, being forc'd with considerable loss so to do. Not without great loss on the Christians side of which every Minnuit a more particular Account is expected.

Your most Loving Friend and Servant

B. W.

LONDON, Printed for *John Cox*, at the Blew-Ball in *Thames street* over  
against *Baynards-Castle*. 1683.